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Claims PTO

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AMW

Claims 1-92 cancelled.

93. An wireless bar code symbol reading system for use both vertical and horizontal orientations in a work environment, said system comprising:

(A) a wireless hand-supportable bar code symbol reading device in two-way RF communication with a base station operably connected to a host system, by way of an RF-based wireless data communication link over which two-way communication of data packets can occur, said wireless hand-supportable bar code reading device including a hand-supportable housing; and

(B) said base station installable within a work environment and including a base station housing having a cradle portion provided with a pair of hinged support hooks for supporting said hand-supportable housing of said reading device in both vertical and horizontal orientations in said work environment;

wherein said pair of hinged support hooks are arrangeable in a protracted position within said cradle portion so as to support said hand-supportable housing in said cradle portion mounted in a vertical orientation in said work environment; and

wherein said pair of hinged support hooks are arrangeable in a retracted position within said cradle portion so as to support said hand-supportable housing in said cradle portion mounted in a horizontal orientation in said work environment.

94. The wireless bar code symbol reading system of claim 93, wherein said wireless hand-supportable bar code reading device further includes:

a bar code symbol reading mechanism, disposed in said hand-supportable housing, for optically scanning and reading a bar code symbol on an object, and producing a symbol character data string representative of said read bar code symbol;

a first RF-based transceiver circuit, disposed in said hand-supportable housing, for transmitting to said base station, a group of data packets associated with said produced symbol character data strings; and

a device controller, disposed within said hand-supportable housing, for controlling the operation of said wireless hand-supportable bar code symbol reading device.

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95. The wireless bar code symbol reading system of claim 94, wherein said base station further includes:

a second RF-based transceiver circuit, disposed within said base station housing, for receiving said group of data packets transmitted from said first RF-based transceiver circuit, and

a base station controller mounted in said base station housing, for controlling the operation of said base station;

wherein said first and second RF-based transceiver circuits enable said RF-based wireless data communication link between said wireless hand-supportable bar code reading device and said base station; and

wherein said first and second RF-based transceiver circuits cooperate to enable the communication of data packets between said wireless hand-supportable bar code symbol reading device and said base station, over said RF-based wireless data communication link.

96. The wireless bar code symbol reading system of claim 93, wherein said cradle portion includes a radio antenna.

97. The wireless bar code symbol reading system of claim 96, wherein said first RF-based transceiver circuit and said device controller are realized as first RF-based chipset disposed within said hand-supportable housing.

98. The wireless bar code symbol reading system of claim 96, wherein said second RF-based transceiver circuit and said base station controller are realized as second RF-based chipset disposed within said base station housing.